

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 01738 270427Z

21

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CU-04 IGA-02 DRC-01 RSC-01 /082 W
----- 045054

R 261232Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1182

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1738

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAID, MV

SUBJ: USG ROLE IN HANDLING AUB SCHOLARSHIPS

REF: BEIRUT A-94, MAY 20, 1974

1. WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR GODLEY'S PROVIDING US OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON AAO BEIRUT ROLE IN ADMINISTERING AID SCHOLARSHIPS TO AUB. WE FIND PROSPECT OF AUB'S ADMINISTERING THESE SCHOLARSHIPS UNSATISFACTORY AND BELIEVE IT MIGHT LEAD TO TERMINATION OF PROGRAM IN MALDIVES.

2. AUB SCHOLARSHIP PRORAM FOR MALDIVIAN STUDENTS HAS BEEN ONE OF FEW WAYS USG HAS BEEN ABLE DIRECTLY DEMONSTRATE ITS INTEREST IN REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES. SHOULD AUB ADMINISTER THESE GRANTS, FACT OF U.S. PROVISION RESOURCES TO MAKE GRANTS POSSIBLE WILL BE LOST TO GOM, WHICH IN TURN WILL MEAN LOSS OF FOREIGN POLICY PURPOSE FOR WHICH WE ARE PROVIDING THEM.

3. COUNSELING IS ANOTHER SEVERE PROBLEM. MALDIVIAN STUDENTS ARE ONLY ABLE TO STUDY UP TO GCE "O" LEVEL (10TH GRADE) IN MALDIVES. THEY REQUIRE SPECIAL PROGRAMS TO BRING SUTDENTS' EDUCATIONAL LEVEL UP TO UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE STANDARDS. WE NOTE AMBASSADOR GODLEY'S COMMENTS ON PRESENT INADEQUACY OF AUB'S COUNCeling SERVICES. ALTHOUGH THESE PRESUMABLY CAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COLOMB 01738 270427Z

EVENTUALLY BE IMPROVED TO ATTAIN SUITABLE PROFICIENCY,

WE CAN FORESEE CONSIDERABLE PROBLEMS IF PROGRAM IS
TURNED OVER TO AUB BEFORE TOP-NOTCH COUNSELING SERVICES
ARE AVAILABLE.

4. WE BELIEVE COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS AUB WOULD FACE
IN DEALING DIRECTLY WITH MALDIVIAN GOVERNMENT MAY BE
INSUPERABLE. BECAUSE OF MALDIVES' ISOLATION AND UN-
RELIABILITY OF COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT
SERVICES, ALMOST EVERY TRANSACTION WITH GOM REGARDING
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM HAS REQUIRED MAJOR EMBASSY EFFORT,
INCLUDING SPECIAL TRIPS BY EMBASSY OFFICER TO MALE
TO ADMINISTER TESTS, COLLECT APPLICATION FORMS, ETC.
WE DO NOT THINK AUB COULD ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN DIRECT
LIAISON WITH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION IN MALDIVES FROM
BEIRUT, AND PROGRAM WOULD THUS ULTIMATELY BREAK DOWN
MERELY FROM INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE. ALSO, FOR PAST
YEAR GOM HAS SHOWN CONSIDERABLE HESITATION IN CONTINUING
AUB PROGRAM, REPORTEDLY OWING TO ANXIETY OVER INTERNAL
POLITICAL SITUATION IN LEBANON AND MIDDLE EAST AREA.
WE BELIEVE THESE FEARS HAVE BEEN ALLAYED BY USG ROLE
IN MALDIVIAN PROGRAM, EMBASSY'S ABILITY REASSURE GOM,
AND, HOPEFULLY, BY GREATER STABILITY ON AUB CAMPUS.
IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT GOM WOULD DROP PROGRAM IF USG'S
ROLE IS NO LONGER EVIDENT.

5. TO CONCLUDE, FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW SAVINGS IN
COSTS THROUGH CLOSING AAO OFFICE DO NOT SEEM WORTH
RISH OF LOSS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ADVANTAGE OR
POSSIBLY TERMINATION OF MALDIVIAN PROGRAM.

VAN HOLLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDUCATION GRANTS, UNIVERSITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COLOMB01738
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740169-0581
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740613/aaaaaksx.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BEIRUT A-94, MAY 20, 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USG ROLE IN HANDLING AUB SCHOLARSHIPS
TAGS: EAID, MV, AMERICAN UNIV OF BEIRUT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005